

SMART



GVERNMENT

Top Suggestion Saving
\$1,801,800

2008



Greg Hansen

Presented by
The Washington State
Productivity Board

The Award Winners Are Here

*Honorees gather for annual
award ceremony*

Also Inside...

*DOC picks its Bright Ideas
Contest winners*

Spring 2009

INNOVATIONS IN STATE GOVERNMENT AWARDS EDITION



The Productivity Board has always been committed to excellence in public service by demonstrating leadership. Through the Employee Suggestion Program and the Teamwork Incentive Program, the board is able to encourage public employees to create, innovate and apply first-rate ideas.



Secretary Sam Reed and State Auditor Brian Sonntag discuss their speeches

Every year, the Productivity Board honors the best suggesters, evaluators, and agency coordinators that our State Government has to offer in our Annual Innovations in State Government Awards Ceremony. This year's event took place on Tuesday, February 24 in the Capitol Rotunda of the Legislative Building and was attended by more than -- directors and employees of our great state.

Celebrating a year that saw the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive Programs save \$2,586,310, Secretary of State Sam Reed and State Auditor Brian Sonntag were both on hand to deliver their heartfelt gratitude to all state employees for their innovative ideas and reward some of the year's best.

"Undoubtedly, state employees are the crux to the success of this program," Secretary Reed said. "Their innovation and creativity have saved the state millions in tax-payer dollars in just 25 years."

Twenty-one employees, including two Teamwork Incentive Program teams and six agency evaluators, were honored with awards. The Department of Transportation also won Agency of the Year, marking the second consecutive year the agency has been honored with the award.

To see more photos of the celebration, and to find out more about the Employee Suggestion Program, please visit our website at www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard.

2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Suggestions Achieving Highest Savings



GREG HANSEN

Department of Transportation

\$1,801,800

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Greg Hansen, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

**GUY BARRETT
& IVY ANDERSON**

Department of Ecology

\$116,286

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Guy Barrett, Secretary Reed, Ivy Anderson



MELANIE PALMER

Office of the Attorney General

\$120,000

Secretary Reed and Melanie Palmer

CHERYL DEMSPEY

Department of Transportation

\$95,413

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Cheryl Dempsey, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth



2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Energy Conservation Award



ROBERT EVANS

Department of Transportation.

Robert Evans suggested that the Department of Transportation install infrared sensors in front of the doors housing the natural gas burners at its Corson Site that would turn the heaters off if the doors are open, saving on the use of gas.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Robert Evans, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

Safety Award



RICK MASON & BOB HYNEK

Department of Transportation.

Rick Mason and Bob Hynek suggested that the Department of Transportation build or buy steel construction entrances plates instead of using rock. Their suggestion was implemented at the beginning of 2009. (DOT chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth accepts on their behalf)

Secretary Reed and DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

Innovative Team Award



BRIDGE PRESERVATION OFFICE DIVE TEAM

Department of Transportation.

The Department of Transportation had previously contracted underwater bridge inspection work mainly to out-of-state consultants. The BPO had engineers trained as divers to perform these mandated underwater inspections. This enabled the agency to eliminate all out-of-state consultants and save \$196,596.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, James Harding, David Bruce, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth, Darren Nebergall, Shawn Plichta and Richard Pawelka

Teamwork Incentive Team Award



FINANCIAL SUPPORT SERVICE PROJECT

Liquor Control Board.

Krista Wisner and Tia Livingwood were able to collect \$50,141 in returned revenue from various vendors by planning and instituting a completely new retrieval process. They also sent information about the agency's Electronic Fund Transfer Program, a move that may net Washington State more revenue in years to come.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DiAnna Bohart, Administrative Director Pat Kohler, Tia Livingood, Secretary Reed, Krista Wisner and Ruthann Kurose



2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Outstanding Evaluators



Secretary Reed and Alice Adams

ALICE ADAMS

Social & Health Services

BRYAN BAZARD

General Administration



Secretary Reed and Bryan Bazard



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ruthann Kurose, Pat Kohler, Secretary Reed, Randy Simmons and DiAnna Bohart

RANDY SIMMONS

Liquor Control Board

GREG HANSEN

Department of Transportation



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Greg Hansen and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth



Secretary Reed and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth accepting on their behalf

JAMES SHAW & STEVE STRAUS

Department of Transportation

Coordinator of the Year



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Lynn Hicks, and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth

LYNN HICKS

Department of Transportation

Lynn Hicks oversaw one of the busiest years a single agency has ever had with the Productivity Board. She also helped oversee a large marketing plan within the agency.

Agency of the Year



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

The Department of Transportation and its employees helped saved the state of Washington \$1,953,571 through their suggestions, which topped 85 in 2008. The agency's Bridge Preservation Team also saved \$196,596. With the help of a sleek marketing plan, and the tireless efforts of DOT's innovative employees, the agency became a leader in the effort to change the way Washington does business through the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive Programs.



The recent “Bright Ideas” Contest garnered over 80 suggestions from the employees of the Department of Corrections. The first 10 of those suggestions deemed eligible were rewarded with DOC merchandise, with the most innovative idea being rewarded a \$50 Safeway gift card.

Here are a list of the winners and their creative ideas:

RANDY VILLANUEVA

Suggested that the agency change the use of forms to streamline the way the way they do business.

DEBORAH COOPER

Suggested that the agency have a place for unused supplies in stock room be given away or exchanged with other departments that would have use for them.

KAREN MEYER

Suggested that the agency allow inmates to voluntarily grow fruit and vegetables for on-site consumption.

CYNTHIA RAGER

Suggested that the agency implement a stand-by policy for staff nurses to reduce the use of contract nursing staff.

STEVE DEPOISTER

Suggested that the agency purchase LED bulb kits for their sure-fire flashlights.

HAROLD SHRINER

Suggested to allow employees sent home for L&I purposes after running out of hours be allowed to continue working, and the effected agency be reimbursed for their time by L&I.

ZACH TATE

Suggested that the agency put a link on the offender kiosk to a folder containing all the offender approved policies.

DAVID SOMDALEN

Suggested that the agency add a group of mailbox for offenders to use at the InfoPort kiosk to order records from the Public Disclosure Unit.

MOST INNOVATIVE SUGGESTION

ZACH TATE

Zach Tate submitted two different suggestions during the contest. His second idea was chosen as the Most Innovative by the Productivity Board. He suggested that the Department of Corrections have architectural uniformity and standardization with all new prison construction.





Look who's saving Washington money!



Over the course of the year, Elizabeth Lasley, PJ Kohler, and Adolfo Ray Ebio successfully identified \$106,000 in medical costs from health care providers for offender-related medical treatments that should have been covered by the Labor and Industries workers' compensation. They also established a new process that will help the Department of Corrections HR department properly identify those claims that are covered under workers' compensation, saving the agency valuable money and time in the future.

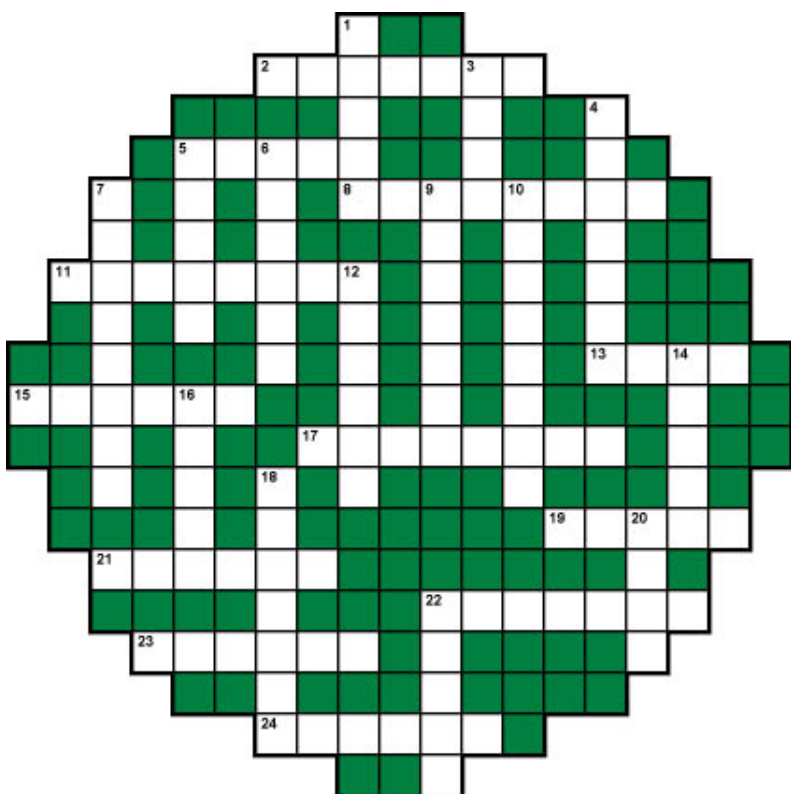
Productivity Board Members:

- Governor Christine Gregoire - Ex-Officio
- Secretary of State Sam Reed - Chair
- State Auditor Brian Sonntag
- Department of General Administration Director Linda Villegas Bremer
- Department of Social and Health Services Appointee Kathleen Brockman
- Private Sector Representative - Retired Mike Kerschbaum PEMCO Financial Services
- Speaker of the House Appointee George Masten
- Office of Financial Management Appointee Roselyn Marcus
- Federation of State Employees Appointee Wanda Riley
- Department of Personnel Assistant Director Scott Turner
- Council of College Presidents Executive Director Terry Teale

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WASHINGTON STATE PRODUCTIVITY BOARD

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2 Smooth, flattering talk; deceptive nonsense.
- 5 The use of charms or spells to effect changes in nature.
- 8 The Latin and poetic name for the island of Ireland.
- 11 The primary religion of Ireland.
- 13 A desire or longing for a specific thing.
- 15 An herb having trifoliate (three) leaves.
- 17 A humorous verse; a county in Ireland.
- 19 An ancient race of people whose descendents occupy Ireland.
- 21 A leprechaun might grant you three of these.
- 22 Name of the patron saint of Ireland.
- 23 An organized public procession on a festive occasion.
- 24 The capital and largest city of Ireland.

DOWN

- 1 The month of the year St. Patrick's Day occurs.
- 3 Another name for Ireland.
- 4 A multi-colored arc in the sky.
- 5 Stories that people believe to be true, even if they are not.
- 6 Any of several related languages of the Celts in Ireland and Scotland.
- 7 The national emblem of Ireland.
- 9 An imaginary good-natured spirit, who was supposed to perform services around the house at night.
- 10 The type of government Ireland has.
- 12 Language of the ancient Irish people.
- 14 The patron _____ of Ireland.
- 16 A small, mischievous creature considered to have magical powers.
- 18 The emerald Isle.
- 20 The chance happening of fortunate or unfortunate events.
- 22 An old name for a fairy; an elf.